Listing of the Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A coin distributor for placement at a divergence location of a coin supply shaft into a first coin delivery shaft and a second coin delivery shaft, the coin supply shaft including a coin checker for verifying coins, the coin distributor comprising:

a coin deflection member moveable in response to the coin checker between a normal blocking position where the coin deflection member substantially spans the first coin delivery shaft and directs a coin propelled through the coin supply shaft by gravity into the second coin delivery shaft and an activated acceptance position where the coin deflection member permits the coin to be propelled by gravity into the first coin delivery shaft, the coin deflection member preventing removal of the coin from the first coin delivery shaft to the coin supply shaft when in the normal blocking position; and

a first detection device including a beam emitter, a beam receiver and a beam deflector, the beam deflector located between a path from the beam emitter to the beam receiver and mounted directly on the coin deflection member for unitary movement of a monolithic body defined by the coin deflection member and the beam deflector between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position.

16. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 15, wherein the coin deflection member moves transverse to a longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position.

17. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 15, wherein the first coin delivery shaft defines an aperture and the coin deflection member projects through the aperture and extends transverse to a longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft to within a distance equal to a thickness of the coin away from a side of the first coin delivery shaft opposite the aperture when in the normal blocking position.

18. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 17, wherein the coin deflection member is positioned further away from the beam emitter in a direction directly transverse to the longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft by at least the distance equal to the thickness of the coin when in the activated acceptance position relative to the normal blocking position.

19. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 15, wherein the coin deflection member is rotatable between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position, and the beam deflector has a curved reflecting surface.

20. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 15, wherein the beam deflector has a reflecting surface perpendicular to a path of a beam emitted by the beam emitter when the coin deflection member is in the normal blocking position, in the activated acceptance position and in between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position.

21. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 15, wherein a beam emitted by the beam emitter is received by the beam receiver when the coin deflection member is in the normal blocking position, the activated acceptance position and in between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position unless the beam is blocked by the coin.

22. (Previously Presented) A coin distributor for placement at a divergence location of a coin supply shaft into a first coin delivery shaft and a second coin delivery shaft, the coin supply shaft including a coin checker for verifying coins, the coin distributor comprising:

a first detection device including a beam emitter and a beam receiver; and

a monolithic coin deflection member moveable in response to the coin checker between a normal blocking position where the coin deflection member substantially spans the first coin delivery shaft and directs a coin propelled through the coin supply shaft by gravity into the second coin delivery shaft and an activated

acceptance position where the coin deflection member permits the coin to be propelled by gravity into the first coin delivery shaft, the coin deflection member preventing removal of the coin from the first coin delivery shaft to the coin supply shaft when in the normal blocking position, and the coin deflection member defined at least in part by a beam deflector located in a path between the beam emitter and the beam receiver.

23. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 22, wherein the coin deflection member moves directly transverse to a longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position.

24. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 22, wherein the first coin delivery shaft defines an aperture and the coin deflection member projects through the aperture and extends transverse to a longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft to within a distance equal to a thickness of the coin away from a side of the first coin delivery shaft opposite the aperture when in the normal blocking position.

25. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 24, wherein the coin deflection member is positioned further away from the beam emitter in a direction directly transverse to the longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft by at least the distance equal to the thickness of the coin when in the activated acceptance position relative to the normal blocking position.

26. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 22, wherein the coin deflection member is rotatable between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position, and the beam deflector has a curved reflecting surface.

27. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 22, wherein the beam deflector has a reflecting surface perpendicular to a path of a beam emitted by the beam emitter when the coin deflection member is in the normal blocking position, in the

activated acceptance position and in between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position.

28. (Previously Presented) The coin distributor of claim 22, wherein a beam emitted by the beam emitter is received by the beam receiver when the coin deflection member is in the normal blocking position, the activated acceptance position and in between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position unless the beam is blocked by the coin.

29. (Currently amended) The coin distributor of claim 15, further comprising a second detection device including a beam emitter, a beam receiver, and a beam deflector, the second detection device located in one of the coin supply shaft and the first coin delivery shaft and spaced apart from the first detection device along a longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft by [[at]] a distance up to a diameter the coin.

30. (Currently amended) The coin distributor of claim 15, wherein the beam emitter includes an infrared light-emitting diode, the beam receiver includes an ~~infra-red~~ infrared light receiver and the beam deflector includes at least one of a mirror and a prism.

31. (Previously presented) The coin distributor of claim 15, wherein the first coin delivery shaft includes an acceptance shaft and the second coin delivery shaft includes a coin return shaft.

32. (Previously presented) The coin distributor of claim 15, further comprising an electromagnet for moving the coin deflection member between the normal blocking position and the activated acceptance position.

33. (Currently amended) The coin distributor of claim 22, further comprising a second detection device including a beam emitter, a beam receiver, and a

beam deflector, the second detection device located in one of the coin supply shaft and the first coin delivery shaft and spaced apart from the first detection device along a longitudinal axis of the first coin delivery shaft by [[at]] a distance up to a diameter the coin.

34. (Currently amended) The coin distributor of claim 22, wherein the beam emitter includes an infrared light-emitting diode, the beam receiver includes an ~~infra red~~ infrared light receiver and the beam deflector includes at least one of a mirror and a prism.